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ADDITIONS TO THE ORCHID FLORA OF BRITISH GUIANA

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THE FOLLOWING CONTRIBUTION to our knowledge of the orchids of British Guiana consists of ten apparently undescribed members of the Pleurothallideae viz. : one species of *Stelis*, four species of *Pleurothallis* and five species of *Octomeria*. The collectors represented are E. F. im Thurn, G. Jenman and N. Y. Sandwith. In general the descriptions are based on herbarium specimens, but in a few cases these were supplemented by water-color drawings. For the opportunity to describe these species, we are indebted to the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew and to the New York Botanical Garden and extend our thanks to them for the loan of the material upon which the descriptions were based.

Stelis perparva C. Schweinfurth sp. nov.

Herba perparva, caespitosa, epiphytica. Radices fibrosae, glabrae. Caules brevissimi, unifoliati. Folium obovato-ellipticum vel cuneato-spathulatum. Inflorescentia folia multo superans; pedunculus filiformis. Racemus pluriflorus. Flores carnosi. Sepala intus minute papillosa. Sepala lateralia per dimidium inferius connata, parte libera oblique rotundato-ovata. Sepalum dorsale majus, acutum. Petala minuta, late cuneata, apice truncata. Labellum minutum, subrotundato-flabellatum.

Plant very small, epiphytic, caespitose, up to 5 cm. high to the tip of the raceme. Roots fibrous, glabrous. Stems very short, about 1–2 mm. long, monophyllous, 1-jointed, entirely concealed by two or three tubular imbricating scarious evanescent sheaths. Leaf obovate-elliptic, cuneate-spatulate or oblanceolate, rounded or subacute at the apex, narrowed toward the base, up to 15 mm. long and 6 mm. wide, coriaceous, apparently very fleshy in the fresh condition. Inflorescence usually solitary, two or three times surpassing the leaf. Peduncle up to the raceme filiform, about 2.3 cm. long, provided with two remote inconspicuous tubular sheaths. Raceme distichous or secund, about 5- to 11-flowered, up to 1.8 cm. long, erect or arcuate. Flowers minute, fleshy, pale greenish yellow, anther bright yellow. Sepals minutely and finely papillose on the inner surface. Lateral sepals connate to about the middle, about 1 mm. long, 1-nerved; free portion asymmetrically round-ovate, acute (the collector's notes say very obtuse and convex). Dorsal sepal much larger than the lateral sepals, sharply acute, 3-nerved, about 1.5 mm. long, connate with the lateral sepals below; free portion ovate, about 1 mm. wide. Petals minute, broadly cuneate, about 0.6 mm. long and subequally wide at the truncate apex, 1-nerved, finely pubescent on the apical margin. Lip minute, subrotund-flabellate, about 0.5 mm. long and 0.7 mm. wide, broadly rounded above, apparently thickened along the apical margin and in the centre. Column minute, subglobose.

A separate collection (*in Thurn 154bis*) shows a leaf 16.5 mm. long and a short 3-flowered inflorescence.

Stelis perparva simulates *S. guianensis* Rolfe vegetatively, but has smaller differently proportioned sepals.

BRITISH GUIANA, behind Manager's House, Arakaka (Barima River). "..., which grows, not uncommonly, on the exposed ends of the twigs of small trees or large shrubs... Pollinia two, pear-shaped,

and without caudicle." April [?] 1896. *E.F. im Thurn 154* (TYPE in Herb. Kew.); *im Thurn 154 bis*; "white". *im Thurn s.n.* (All in Herb. Kew.)

***Pleurothallis breviscapa* C. Schweinfurth sp. nov.**

Herba parva, caespitosa. Radices fibrosae, crassae. Caules perbreves, unifoliati. Folium anguste ellipticum vel obovato-oblongum, valde coriaceum. Scapi tenues, quam folium multo breviores, uni- vel biflori. Sepala lateralia libera, anguste lanceolata, falcata. Sepalum dorsale lanceolato-oblongum vel elliptico-lanceolatum. Petala multo breviora, minute ciliolata. Labellum oblanceolatum, acutum, prope basim lobulis dentiformibus praeditum.

Plant small, caespitose, epiphytic, about 3–4 cm. high. Roots fibrous, glabrous, numerous. Stems very short, monophyllous, about 4.5–9 mm. long, concealed by two tubular imbricating evanescent sheaths, more or less decumbent at base, erect or spreading. Leaf narrowly obovate-oblong or narrowly elliptic, acute or subacute, gradually narrowed to a scarcely petioled base, about 2.5–3.3 cm. long, 6–7 mm. wide, very coriaceous, erect, the mid-nerve sulcate above and prominent beneath. Inflorescences one to four, about half as long as the leaf, 1- or 2-flowered. Peduncle up to the lowest flower filiform, about 2 cm. long, apparently finely pubescent. Flowers large for the plant. Lateral sepals free, narrowly lanceolate, falcate, about 6.2 mm. long and 1.2 mm. wide, acute or acuminate, 3-nerved. Dorsal sepal narrowly lanceolate-oblong to elliptic-lanceolate, about 6.3 mm. long and 1 mm. wide, acute, 3-nerved. Petals half as long as the sepals, oblong or elliptic-lanceolate, shortly acuminate, about 3.1 mm. long and 1 mm. wide, 1-nerved, finely cellular-ciliate except near the base. Lip oblanceolate, acute, about 5 mm. long including the small linear claw, 1.2 mm. wide, with two oblong auricles at base parallel

to the claw and with a pair of small spreading triangular-dentiform lobules near the base, finely cellular-ciliate on the margin, 3-nerved with the lateral nerves extending only to the middle. Column short, provided with a membranaceous wing which is dilated at base, rather abruptly dilated above the middle and tridentate at the apex, about 2 mm. long on the dorsal surface.

Pleurothallis breviscapa is apparently allied to *P. funerea* Cogn., but differs in the smaller leaf, pubescent peduncles, 1- or 2-flowered inflorescence, ciliolate petals and the presence of basal auricles on the lip. A drawing of this number shows thick leaves and wine-red flowers.

BRITISH GUIANA, JUNE 1897. *E. F. in Thurn 181* (TYPE in Herb. Kew.)

Pleurothallis diffusiflora *C. Schweinfurth* sp. nov.

Herba epiphytica, caespitosa. Caules perbreves, monophylli, vaginis tubularibus imbricatis omnino tecti. Folium obovato-spathulatum, apice rotundatum, inferne attenuatum. Inflorescentiae folium multo superantes, diffusae. Racemi valde fractiflexi, laxi. Pedicelli longi. Sepala lateralia fere omnino connata; lamina elliptica, concava. Sepalum dorsale simile. Petala multo minora, late spathulata, apiculata. Labellum ovatum, parte apicali subgloboso-incrassata. Columna gracilis.

Plant caespitose, middle-sized, about 13.6 cm. high. Roots fibrous, glabrous, numerous. Stems very short, unifoliate, about 10–14 mm. long, entirely concealed by two (or rarely three) tubular scarious imbricating evanescent sheaths of which the upper is much the longer. Leaf obovate-spatulate, gradually tapering to a sessile or shortly petioled base; blade about 3–3.6 cm. long and 12–13 mm. wide, broadly rounded above, often with a minute acute tip, marginate, coriaceous; petiole indistinct, up

to 4 mm. long. Inflorescences one to four, arising from the stem a little below the terminal leaf, several times longer than the leaf; peduncle up to the raceme filiform, 3.5–4.5 cm. long, provided below the middle with an inconspicuous close tubular sheath. Raceme loose, flexuous or diffuse, 6- to 19-flowered; rachis strongly fractiflex. Pedicels long, arcuate, 11 mm. or less long. Flowers membranaceous. Lateral sepals connate forming an elliptical concave lamina which is minutely emarginate at the apex, about 5 mm. long and 3 mm. wide, 6-nerved, making with the column-foot a small mentum. Dorsal sepal similar, ovate-elliptic, strongly concave, about 5 mm. long and 2.6 mm. wide, subacute or obtuse at the apex, 3-nerved. Petals broadly spatulate, about 2.5 mm. long and 1.5 mm. broad, 1-nerved, abruptly acute or apiculate, with a dilated base, somewhat asymmetric, with scattered indistinct papillae near the apex. Lip ovate in outline, about 3 mm. long and 2 mm. wide when expanded; lower portion (almost a third) oblong, minutely auriculate at base, rather abruptly dilated into a sagittate lamina with a minute sharp decurved lobule on each side; the anterior portion is very fleshy and subglobose-thickened. Column slender, about 2.1 mm. long, terminating in a tridentate membranaceous wing.

Another collection, (*im Thurn 172*) contains a plant about 6 cm. high with stems 5 mm. or more long, leaves 2 cm. long and 7 mm. wide (immature leaves are much smaller) and peduncle about 3.1 cm. long. It has the lamina of the lateral sepals about 6 mm. long and 3.2 mm. wide, distinctly bidentate at the apex; dorsal sepal about 5.5 mm. long, 3 mm. wide, rounded at the apex; petals 2.8 mm. long, 1.8 mm. wide. Another collection, (*im Thurn 116*) has spatulate-ob lanceolate leaves; dorsal sepal about 6 mm. long; petals 2.5 mm. long and about 2 mm. wide.

Pleurothallis diffusiflora seems to be allied to *P. hians* Lindl., but the flowers are smooth inside with an unguiculate very different lip.

BRITISH GUIANA, Essequibo River, Moraballi Creek, near Bartica. Nearly at sea-level. "Epiphyte, in Wallaba forest. Sep. greenish-yellowish-mauve, mottled with chocolate. Upper pet. and labellum dark chocolate." October 7, 1929. *N. Y. Sandwith 474* (TYPE in Herb. Kew.); Barama Falls, "5 x 1. 96." *E. F. im Thurn 172* (Herb. Kew.): *im Thurn 116* (Herb. Kew.): Near No. 6 Camp, Barima-Barama Road. "Sepals pale yellow green with distinct scattered spots of deep rich purple; petals the color of sepals but purple spots more numerous especially at the upper edges which are quite covered by the deeper color; lip with an almost bulbous swelling at apex which is light bright purple, otherwise yellow green with closely set small dark purple spots along edge and a large patch of deep purple at foot of column." February 1897. *im Thurn 178* (Herb. Kew.)

***Pleurothallis minima* C. Schreeinfurth sp. nov.**

Herba minima, caespitosa. Radices fibrosae, crassae. Caules brevissimi, unifoliati. Folium cuneato-spathulatum vel spathulato-ellipticum, marginatum. Inflorescentia singula, filiformis, pauciflora. Sepala lateralia in laminam rotundato-ellipticam bidentatam connata. Sepalum dorsale lanceolatum. Petala elliptico-lanceolata, falcata, fimbriata. Labellum simplex, oblongum, apice rotundatum, margine longe ciliatum.

Plant minute, caespitose. Roots fibrous, glabrous, stout for the plant. Stems very short, about 1.5 mm. long, unifoliate, 1-jointed, entirely concealed by a tubular membranaceous evanescent sheath. Leaf cuneate-spatulate to spatulate-elliptic, up to 7 mm. long and 3 mm. wide, acute to rounded at the apex, cuneate-narrowed at base, marginate. Inflorescence solitary, filiform, subequaling or exceeding the leaf, up to 5-flowered. Flowers membranaceous, large for the plant. Lateral sepals connate to above the middle forming a round-elliptic sharply

bidentate lamina which is about 2 mm. long and subequally broad, 2- or less distinctly 4-nerved. Dorsal sepal lanceolate, nearly 2.7 mm. long, about 1 mm. wide, acute, concave, indistinctly 3-nerved. Petals elliptic-lanceolate, falcate, about 1.9 mm. long and 0.9 mm. wide, acuminate, more or less obtuse, fimbriate on the margins except near the base, 1-nerved. Lip simple, oblong with strongly revolute margins, when expanded about 2 mm. long and 0.6 mm. broad, rounded at the apex, minutely unguiculate with parallel auricles at base, convex but longitudinally sulcate through the middle of the lower half, provided with fine cellular hairs on the margin especially near the apex. Column strongly arcuate, about 1.2 mm. long, with a concave membranaceous wing which is dilated tridentate and denticulate at the apex, extended into a short foot.

Pleurothallis minima is allied to *P. barbulata* Lindl., but differs in having fimbriate petals and a scape which commonly surpasses the leaf. It differs from *P. ciliolata* Schltr. in its smaller flowers and dissimilar lip.

BRITISH GUIANA, B.-B. [Barima-Barama] Road. "25. VIII 96."
E. F. in Thurn 166 (TYPE in Herb. Kew.)

***Pleurothallis pertenuis* C. Schweinfurth sp. nov.**

Herba nana, tenuissima, caespitosa. Caules brevissimi, unifoliati. Folium lineare vel oblanceolato-lineare. Scapus uni-vel biflorus, tenuis, folium subaequans vel superans. Sepala lateralia in laminam usque ad medium bidentatam elliptico-ovatum connata. Sepalum dorsale lanceolatum. Petala anguste oblongo-spathulata, valde obliqua, abrupte acuta. Labellum sagittato-oblongum cum angulis triangularibus infra medium, apice rotundatum.

Plant dwarf, very slender, caespitose. Roots fibrous, glabrous, numerous. Stems very short, monophyllous,

about 3.7 mm. or less long, 1-jointed, entirely concealed by two imbricating tubular scarious sheaths. Leaf narrowly linear or oblanceolate-linear, very coriaceous, deeply longitudinally sulcate above and carinate beneath in the dried specimen, in fresh material probably fleshy, acute or minutely tridenticulate at the apex, narrowed to a more or less distinct sulcate petiole, up to 2.2 cm. long and 1.7 mm. wide when expanded. Inflorescences slender, 1-flowered, in anthesis slightly surpassing the leaves, minutely puberulent. Pedicel conspicuously exerted beyond the infundibuliform puberulent sheath. Lateral sepals connate forming an elliptic-ovate lamina which is sharply bidentate about to the middle, about 4.1 mm. long and 2.2 mm. wide across the middle, prominently 2-nerved with an indistinct nerve on each side. Dorsal sepal lanceolate, 4 mm. long, 1.8 mm wide, acute, concave, 3-nerved. Petals very asymmetrically oblong-spatulate, about 2.7 mm. long and 1 mm. wide near the apex, obliquely and abruptly acute, 1-nerved. Lip sagittate-oblong, with sharp-triangular spreading angles just below the middle, 3 mm. long, about 1.4 mm. wide across the lateral angles, rounded at the apex, 1-nerved throughout or 3-nerved to the middle, finely papillose on the upper surface. Column stout, about 2 mm. long on the dorsal surface, narrowly winged on each side. Ovary slenderly turbinate, muricate.

A sheet in the Kew Herbarium consists of apparently different collections of this species, but they all are designated as *im Thurn 84*. Some plants of this number show flat leaves, others 2-flowered scapes, and one flower (separate) has the lamina of the lateral sepals about 2.3 mm. wide and distinctly 4-nerved, and also has petals which are 2-nerved and are somewhat broader below than in the type. Another collection (*Jenman 1996*) shows a similarly 4-nerved lamina of the lateral sepals and 2-nerved

petals. Both of these collections appear to consist of more mature plants than the typical number.

Pleurothallis pertenuis appears to be very close to the Costa Rican *P. vittariifolia* Schltr., but differs in its glabrous sepals. It is dissimilar to *P. uniflora* Lindl. in its much shorter stems, smaller leaves and deeply bidentate lamina of the lateral sepals. It is apparently allied to *P. hymenantha* Lindl., but has shorter stems and dissimilar shorter petals.

BRITISH GUIANA, Essequibo River, Moraballi Creek, near Bartica. Nearly at sea-level. "Minute epiphyte. Fl. brownish orange in bud." September 15, 1929. *N. Y. Sandwith 304* (TYPE in Herb. Kew.): Aruka. June 1897. *E. F. im Thurn 84*: B.-B. [Barima-Barama] Road. November 1896. *im Thurn 84*: Roriabo. "7. XI. 94. Fl. deep orange." *im Thurn 84*: Pomeroon River. March 1884. *George Jenman 1996* (All in Herb. Kew.)

***Octomeria erosilabia* C. Schweinfurth sp. nov.**

Herba rigida, crassa. Rhizoma repens. Caules pauciararticulati. Folia erecta, oblongo-lineariva vel lineari-elliptica, valde coriacea, acuta, breviter petiolata. Inflorescentiae dense glomeratae; flores numerosi. Sepala lanceolata, acuminata. Petala similia, ovato-lanceolata. Labellum prope basim trilobatum; lobi laterales parvi, auriculiformes; lobus medius multo major, ovato-oblongus, marginibus erosis; discus bicarinatus.

Plant rigid, stout. Rhizome creeping, stout, woody, concealed by the imbricating fibres of sheaths. Roots fibrous, glabrous, branching, numerous. Stems erect or ascending from a decumbent base, about 9–16 cm. long, monophyllous, 3- to 4-jointed, mostly concealed by close cylindrical evanescent sheaths, longitudinally sulcate and 4-angled in the dried specimen, about 1 cm. apart on the rhizome. Leaves oblong-linear or linear-elliptic, rigidly erect, shortly but distinctly petioled; blades 9 to about 17 cm. long (the longest blade incomplete), about 1 cm.

wide between the revolute margins, acute, shortly cuneate at base, very thick-coriaceous, with the mid-nerve sulcate above and prominent beneath, conduplicate when young; petioles 0.8–1.8 cm. long, sulcate, laterally compressed. Inflorescences densely capitate and axillary, many-flowered. Flowers apparently subfleshy. Lateral sepals free, lanceolate, slightly asymmetric, acuminate, 6 mm. long, 2 mm. wide near the base, 4-nerved. Dorsal sepal similar, apparently a little shorter and narrower than the lateral sepals. Petals ovate-lanceolate, acuminate, 5.5 mm. long, 1.8 mm. wide, 3-nerved. Lip 3-lobed near the base, oblong-ovate in outline, minutely clawed, 3 mm. long, about 2 mm. wide across the lateral lobes, shortly cuneate to the claw; lateral lobes rounded auriculate, relatively small; middle lobe ovate-oblong, 2 mm. long, about 1.2 mm. wide near the contracted base, denticulate-erose on the anterior margins, tridenticulate at the subtruncate apex; disc 3-nerved, with a pair of keels extending from the centre of each lateral lobe to the centre of the middle lobe. Column small, about 1.3 mm. long on the dorsal surface. Pollinia eight, obliquely complanate-pyriform.

Another sheet of this collection (*Jenman 1989*) preserved in the Herbarium of the New York Botanical Garden, shows the smallest secondary stem 8.3 cm. long and one leaf about 1.2 cm. wide.

Octomeria erosilabia differs from *O. tridentata* Lindl. in having commonly longer stems, consistently longer leaves, subfleshy flowers, broader petals and erose lip. It is vegetatively larger and has a smaller lip than *O. ignavensis* Schltr.

BRITISH GUIANA, POMEROON River, March 1884. *George Jenman 1989* (TYPE in Herb. Kew. DUPLICATE TYPE in Herb. N.Y. Bot. Gard.)

***Octomeria exigua* C. Schweinfurth sp. nov.**

Herba tenuissima, caespitosa. Radices fibrosae, nu-

merosae. Caules filiformes, uniarticulati. Folium erectum, lineare, carnosum ut videtur. Flos membranaceus. Sepala petalaeque acuta, trinervia. Sepala lateralia oblongo-lanceolata, libera. Sepalum dorsale simile, paulo majus. Petala lanceolato-elliptica. Labellum obovatum, supra medium leviter trilobatum, late obtusum, inferne cuneatum. Columna brevis, crassa.

Plant small and slender, about 4.5 cm. or less high. Roots fibrous, numerous, glabrous. Stems filiform, unifoliate, up to about 1.5 cm. high, 1-jointed. Leaves linear linear-oblong or elliptic-linear, apparently fleshy in fresh material, very shortly petioled, acute to rounded at the tip, erect; blades 1.3–1.95 cm. long and 1–2 mm. wide. Inflorescences axillary, fascicled, apparently one flower present at a time. Flower membranaceous. Sepals and petals acute, 3-nerved. Lateral sepals free, oblong-lanceolate, about 3.5 mm. long and 1 mm. wide. Dorsal sepal similar, about 3.7 mm. long and 1.2 mm. wide. Petals elliptic-lanceolate, about 3.1 mm. long, 1 mm. wide. Lip obovate in outline, 1.6 mm. long, about 1 mm. wide above the middle, broadly obtuse, somewhat trilobed near the apex with rounded subequal lobes, cuneate toward the base, 3-nerved. Column very short, stout, about 1 mm. long on the dorsal surface.

The above description is based on two plants (mounted on the herbarium sheet with *Octomeria integrilabia* C. Schweinf.) of which one bears only a cylindrical ribbed fruit, but is closely similar to the flower-bearing plant beside it. The single flower present has somewhat distorted perianth segments. There appear to be no near allies.

BRITISH GUIANA, Hoodline [?]. February 1896. *E. F. im Thurn* 115 B (TYPE in Herb. Kew.)

Octomeria integrilabia *C. Schweinfurth* sp. nov.
Herba pusilla, caespitosa. Radices numerosae. Cau-

les graciles, breves, juventute vaginis arctis tubularibus omnino tecti. Folium singulum, probabiliter semicylindricum, acutum. Inflorescentiae axillares, uni- vel pauciflorae. Flores membranacei. Sepala lanceolata vel ovato-lanceolata, uninervia; lateralia paulo obliqua et saepe libera. Petala sepalis lateralibus similia. Labellum simplex, subquadrato-ellipticum, bidentatum. Column parva, arcuata, basi incrassata.

Plant slender, caespitose, 4.7–9.5 cm. high. Roots fibrous, glabrous, very numerous. Stems about 1–5 cm. long, 1- or 2-jointed, slender, when young entirely concealed by close tubular evanescent sheaths, unifoliate, erect or spreading. Leaf slender, probably semicylindric and channelled when fresh, shortly and indistinctly petioled, often arcuate and conduplicate in the dried specimen, about 2.1–4.9 cm. long, up to 2 mm. wide, abruptly acute. Flowers solitary or few, membranaceous. Lateral sepals ovate-lanceolate to linear-lanceolate, free or connate to the middle, about 3.8–5 mm. long, 1–1.6 mm. wide, acute to shortly acuminate, somewhat asymmetric, prominently 1-nerved with two indistinct supplementary nerves at the base. Dorsal sepal similar, 4–5.5 mm. long, 1–2 mm. wide, acute or shortly acuminate. Petals linear-lanceolate oblong-lanceolate or elliptic-lanceolate, acute or acuminate, 4–4.8 mm. long, 1–1.6 mm. wide, 1-nerved, asymmetric. Lip simple, subquadrate-elliptic, about 2–2.7 mm. long, 1.8–2 mm. wide, bidentate at the apex, cordate at the base, 3-nerved. Column small, slender, about 1.2–1.5 mm. long, arcuate, dilated at base, with a prominent terminal truncate or rotundate wing and a reflexed rostellum.

This species is represented by several collections. One herbarium sheet (designated in the handwriting of R. A. Rolfe as *E. F. in Thurn 115A?*) consists of several apparently different collections and is taken as the type.

Octomeria integrilabia is remarkable in having a simple lip.

BRITISH GUIANA, [Composite sheet]—Arakaka. January 1896. *E. F. im Thurn 115 ??*: Hoodslime [?]. White-flowered. February 1896. *im Thurn 115A: im Thurn 167* (TYPE in Herb. Kew.): [Another sheet]—Arakaka. February 1896. *im Thurn s.n.* (Herb. Kew.)

Octomeria minor *C. Schweinfurth sp. nov.*

Herba parvula, epiphytica, caespitosa. Radices fibrosae, longae, numerosae. Caules perbreves, uniarticulati, vaginis tubularibus omnino obtecti. Folium singulum, erectum, lineari- vel elliptico-lanceolatum, carnosum ut videtur. Inflorescentiae axillares, multiflorae. Sepala oblongo-lanceolata, acuminata, trinervia. Petala lanceolata, paulo minora. Labellum infra medium trilobatum; lobi laterales parvi, rotundato-auriculiformes, patentes; lobus medius multo major, ovatus, margine minute erosus. Columna gracilis.

Plant small and very short for the genus, caespitose, up to 3.8 cm. high, rather stout. Roots fibrous, long, glabrous, numerous. Stems short, 1-jointed, up to about 1.4 cm. high, entirely concealed by two close tubular imbricating evanescent sheaths. Leaf solitary, erect, linear-lanceolate to elliptic-lanceolate, sessile, up to 2.4 cm. long and 4.5 mm. wide, acute, marginate, apparently fleshy in the fresh condition. Inflorescence axillary, many-flowered. Sepals oblong-lanceolate, shortly acuminate, 3-nerved. Lateral sepals free, about 6.5 mm. long and 1.9 mm. wide. Dorsal sepal very similar, concave. Petals lanceolate, 5.3 mm. long, 1.4–1.5 mm. wide, acuminate, 1-nerved throughout or 3-nerved to about the middle, somewhat asymmetric. Lip oblong-obovate in outline, about 3.1–3.5 mm. long, 2 mm. wide, 3-lobed below the middle; lateral lobes small, round-auriculi-form, spreading; middle lobe ovate or broadly ovate,

broadly truncate or abruptly acute at the apex, minutely erose except on the basal margins; disc rather abruptly narrowed below the lateral lobes, 3-nerved, bicarinate with the keels extending from the centre of the lateral lobes almost to the middle of the mid-lobe. Column cylindrical, slightly arcuate and abruptly bent back near the summit, about 1.9 mm. long measured on the dorsal surface, with an elongated stigmatic orifice, extended into a relatively long foot. Anther conic-semiovoid. Pollinia eight, obliquely complanate-pyriform.

Octomeria minor differs from *O. rigida* Rodr. in its small vegetative proportions, less acuminate floral segments, 3-nerved petals and membranaceous lip.

BRITISH GUIANA, Essequibo River, Moraballi Creek, near Bartica. Nearly at sea-level, "Epiphyte on the entomologist's tree (Morabukea). Fl. cream." August 24, 1929. *N. Y. Sandwith 112* (TYPE in Herb. Kew.)

***Octomeria parvula* C. Schreinfurth sp. nov.**

Herba pusilla, epiphytica, caespitosa. Radices fibrosae, numerosae. Caules pauciarticulati, unifoliati. Folium crassum ut videtur, lineari-ellipticum. Inflorescentiae axillares, pauciflorae. Flos membranaceus. Sepala lanceolata vel ovato-lanceolata, trinervia, persimilia. Petala paulo minora. Labellum in circuitu ovato-ellipticum, prope medium trilobatum; lobi laterales parvi, auriculiformes; lobus medius multo major, acutus, dentatus vel denticulatus.

Plant small, slender, caespitose, about 8 cm. or less tall. Roots fibrous, glabrous, numerous. Stems filiform, decumbent at base, 1- to 3-jointed, 4.2 cm. or less long, unifoliate, entirely concealed by close tubular sheaths which are commonly evanescent. Leaf linear-elliptic, apparently very fleshy in the fresh state, shortly petioled to sessile, acute, erect or erect-spreading; blade up

to 3.4 cm. long and 4.5 mm. wide, the mid-nerve prominent beneath. Inflorescences axillary, fascicled, one or two flowers appearing at a time. Flower membranaceous. Sepals 3-nerved. Lateral sepals free, lanceolate to ovate-lanceolate, 3.5–4.5 mm. long, 1.2–2 mm. wide, obtuse acute or acuminate, somewhat asymmetric. Dorsal sepal very similar, concave. Petals lanceolate or ovate-lanceolate, about 3–3.5 mm. long, 1–1.5 mm. wide, acuminate, 1-nerved with a short supplementary nerve on each side at the base, more or less asymmetric. Lip ovate-elliptic in outline, 3-lobed near the middle, about 2 mm. long and 1.8 mm. wide across the lateral lobes; lateral lobes small, rounded-auriculiform; middle lobe much larger, ovate, acute, erose-dentate or denticulate near the apex; disc 3-nerved, bicarinate with the keels extending from the middle of the lateral lobes almost to the middle of the mid-lobe. Column arcuate-cylindric, dilated at the base, about 1.4 mm. long on the posterior surface, extended into a prominent foot. Pollinia complanate-pyriform.

The specimen from Arakaka (*im Thurn s.n.*) shows two stems about 5–5.5 cm. high of which one is distinctly 4-jointed. The column of the single flower present is about 1.1 mm. long, measured on the dorsal surface.

Octomeria parvula is vegetatively similar to *O. parvifolia* Rolfe, but differs markedly in flower structure.

BRITISH GUIANA, Essequibo River, Moraballi Creek, near Bartica. Nearly at sea-level. "Epiphyte. Fl. wholly lemon-yellow (including stele and labellum)." September 11, 1929. *N. Y. Sandwith 234a* (TYPE in Herb. Kew.): Arakaka. February 1896. *E. F. im Thurn s.n.* (Herb. Kew. on sheet with *Octomeria integrilabia* C. Schweinf.)